



Fall Creek Falls Activities July 8th - 15th

Welcome to Fall Creek Falls State Park! Summer vacation time is here and what a great place to spend it! The park provides a wonderful opportunity to enjoy some hiking, picnicking, boating, swimming, and wildlife watching while taking in the beautiful scenery. We encourage you to take advantage of the programs we have arranged for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

***A parent or guardian must accompany youngsters 12 years old and younger.**

***Some craft programs may be limited to 30 participants due to limited supplies and space. First come, first serve.**

Stuart Carroll – Interpretive Specialist III
Matt Brown – Park Ranger II
David Vogt – Seasonal Interpretive Ranger

Jon Morris – Seasonal Interpretive Ranger
Ross Robinson – Seasonal Interpretive Ranger
Brittany McClure – Seasonal Interpretive Ranger

Sunday, July 8th

- 8:30am **Devotional** – Randy Garrell will be hosting an interdenominational devotional at the Campground A Pavilion.
- 9:00am **Canoe Float** – Meet Ross at the Boat Dock to explore Fall Creek Lake. You may rent your canoe at the boat dock; first-come, first-serve.
- 10:30am **Dogwood Refrigerator Magnets** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn about dogwoods. Then, we will make a floral refrigerator magnet using natural materials.
- 1:00pm **Hike to the Base of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center for a 3-mile roundtrip hike to the bottom of Fall Creek Falls, the park's namesake. This is a moderately strenuous hike which you will view the area's varying forests and geology and learn a little about the park's history. Bring along plenty of water and wear sturdy shoes.
- 1:15pm **Aluminum Foil Canoe Float** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall and build your own aluminum foil boat. Once it is completed, we will race it down the rapids of the Village stream to compete for a prize.
- 1:30pm **Cable Trail Hike** – Join Jon at the Nature Center for a short but strenuous hike down the Cable Trail to the bottom of Cane Creek Falls. This is a great opportunity to experience the grandeur of one of our park's most prominent geological features. Wear sturdy shoes and bring along some water.
- 3:00pm **Snake Show** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center to get up close and personal with some of the park's more elusive residents.
- 3:30pm **Tree ID Walk** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to go on a short walk around the area. Along the way, we will discuss the practical and medicinal uses of trees.

6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.

Monday, July 9th

9:15am **Bird Walk** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall for a casual stroll around the area to enjoy a variety of our feathered friends. Bring binoculars if you have them or borrow a pair from us.

9:30am **Paw Paw Trail** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center for a moderate hike along the Paw Paw Trail. This will be a good time to view some trees, birds, and other interesting sights. Bring along plenty of water.

10:45am **Butterfly Plant Stakes** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to make a colorful butterfly to decorate your potted plant or flower arrangement.

1:30pm **Euchre Card Game** – Do you know how to play euchre? Meet Ross at Shelter 1 (by the Nature Center) to find out.

2:00pm **Bear Call Craft** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall and learn some facts about the black bears that have been sighted in the park in recent years and make a bear call from recycled material.

3:00pm **Using a Compass** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn the basics of using a compass.

6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.

Tuesday, July 10th

9:00am **Hike to Fall Creek Falls Overlook** – Meet Brittany at the lobby of the Inn for a moderate 4-mile, round-trip hike on a paved trail to the top of Fall Creek Falls. This is a great opportunity to get acquainted with some of our park's native plants and animals and learn about the park's history.

1:15pm **Hike to Cane Creek Falls Overlook** – Meet Brittany at the Nature Center for a walk to the Cane Creek Falls Overlook on the Paw Paw Trail. We will discuss various trees and plants along the way and highlight the area's geology at the overlook.

3:45pm **Tick Awareness and Prevention** – Meet Brittany at the Nature Center to discuss the types of ticks in our area, the diseases they carry, and how to best avoid them. Come with your tick questions.

6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.

Wednesday, July 11th

8:45am **Hike to the Base of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Brittany at the Main Overlook of Fall Creek Falls for a short but strenuous hike to the bottom of the falls. Along the way, we will discuss our park's forest ecology and geology.

9:00am **Creek Walk** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center for a cool nature hike up the middle of Cane Creek. Be sure to wear clothes and shoes that you can get wet.

9:30am **Scenic Bike Tour** – Meet Ranger Matt in the parking area at the Dam for a scenic 6½ -mile bike tour to Fall Creek Falls and Piney Falls. This trip will feature spectacular views of Cane Creek Gorge.

10:30am **Buzzard's Roost Hike** – Meet Brittany at the Main Overlook of Fall Creek Falls for an easy hike to Millikan's Overlook and Buzzard's Roost. Learn about native wildlife and geology while taking in the breathtaking views from some of the park's most popular overlooks. Wear sturdy shoes and bring plenty of water. Tick repellent is advised for this event.

1:30pm **Fish of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center to learn some interesting facts about the freshwater fish in the area.

3:15pm **Bracelet Making** – Meet Brittany at the Rec. Hall to make a stylish bracelet.

6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.

Thursday, July 12th

- 9:30am **Going Batty** – Join Brittany at the Nature Center to learn about the importance and lifestyle of these threatened creatures.
- 10:00am **Hummingbird Mobiles** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn some fun facts about our smallest bird species, the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird. Then stick around to make a moving hummingbird sculpture using natural materials. This program may be difficult for children under 7 years old.
- 10:15am **Turkey Pen Ridge Hike to Falls** – Meet Brittany at the Anderson Stage (behind the General Store) for a 2-mile roundtrip hike to Fall Creek Falls. We will discuss various rock formations, plants, animals, and their ecological relationships along the way.
- 2:15pm **Wheeler Farm Excursion** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center for a short drive to the Wheeler Farm to view some spectacular geologic features. Please provide your own transportation. Carpooling is recommended. This will be a moderately strenuous 2-mile roundtrip hike to a natural bridge and shallow but beautiful waterfall. Wear sturdy shoes or boots and bring along some water.
- 2:30pm **Make a Lightweight Camp Stove** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to make an alcohol stove using recycled materials. We request that children under 12 years old do not attempt this program due to sharp edges and difficult procedures.
- 2:45pm **Snake Venom** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center for a discussion about the types of venom found in snakes around the world and how it affects the body.
- 3:00pm **Trash Bash** – Meet Brittany at the George Hole to help clean up the litter around the picnic tables and water's edge. Your assistance in this resource management project will be greatly appreciated. Please bring work gloves if you have them.
- 6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.
- 7:30pm **Campfire** – Meet Jon at the George Hole to learn about fire building, park history, native wildlife, and more! Be sure to bring your roasting sticks and marshmallows. You may want to bring along a flashlight to help you across the bridge.

Friday, July 13th

- 9:15am **Gilbert Gaul Hike** – Meet Brittany at the Youth Camp 2 gate for a hike along the Gilbert Gaul Trail. This lakeside hike is a great place to view waterfowl, birds, beaver activity, and much, much more. Bring plenty of water and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Tick repellent is advised for this hike.
- 9:30am **Canoe Race** – Meet Ross at the Boat Dock for a canoe race on the lake. You may rent your canoe at the boat dock; first-come, first-serve.
- 10:30am **Dragonfly Plant Stakes** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn about this diminutive and beautiful predator. Then, we will make a plant stake replica for your potted plants.
- 11:00am **Knot Tying** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn some knot tying skills.
- 1:15pm **Plant/Tree ID Walk** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center to go on a short walk around the area. Along the way, we will discuss plant and tree identification techniques, as well as their role in nature and with man.
- 1:30pm **Snake ID and Natural History Slideshow** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn to recognize many of the species of snakes in the park and learn about their fascinating natural history.
- 1:45pm **Hike to the Base of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center for a 3-mile roundtrip hike to the bottom of Fall Creek Falls, the park's namesake. This is a moderately strenuous hike which you will view the area's varying forests and geology and learn a little about the park's history. Bring along plenty of water and wear sturdy shoes.
- 3:00pm **Pelts and Skulls** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center to take a look at the skins and skulls for some of our local wildlife.

- 3:15pm **Park History Slideshow** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn about the park's history and other valuable information about our park.
- 3:30pm **Parasites** – It's an organism eat organism world out there. Meet Brittany at the Nature Center and see what is lurking in this microscopic world.
- 6:00pm **Local Spiders** – Meet Ranger Matt at the lobby of the Inn to learn about our native spiders' habits, identifying features, role in nature, and more! There will be a short, rolling slide presentation to watch from 6:00pm to 7:00pm and possibly some live specimens to observe and discuss. Stop by anytime during the hour.
- 6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.
- 8:00pm **Evening Nature Ramble** – Meet Ranger Matt at the Campers' Check-In for a nature walk around the golf course. This is the peak time to see some of the park's nightlife like deer, raccoons, frogs, etc. If it's clear, we may look at a star or two as well.

Saturday, July 14th

- 8:45am **Rock Hop** – Meet Ranger Matt at the Nature Center for a technical and strenuous off trail hike through Cane Creek Gorge. Along the way, we will see both Fall Creek Falls and Cane Creek Falls. Be prepared to navigate steep slopes, large boulders, and slippery surfaces. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water in your day pack. We do not recommend attempting this trip unguided due to the possibility of getting lost! The minimum age is 12 years, and persons with physical infirmities should not attend. This hike may take 2-4 hours.
- 9:00am **Cane Pole Fishing** – Meet Jon at the Boat Dock and get ready to test your old-time fishing skills. Borrow one of our cane poles or bring your own rod. Kids under 14 years old fish for free. Persons 14 years old and older require a state fishing license and a park lake permit. You must provide your own bait. Bait and permits are available at the Boat Dock.
- 9:30am **Fire Safety** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn about fire safety. We will discuss topics such as the importance of using fire rings, only burning when allowed, and what to do with a grease fire.
- 10:30am **Campfire Starters** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn how to make waterproof firestarters out of household trash.
- 10:45am **Basketball Games** – Meet Jon at the basketball court in the Village to play a variety of basketball games such as "Gotcha", "Around the World", and "Pick Up Games".
- 11:00am **Backpacking Basics** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn what type of equipment to carry when backpacking and how to load your pack.
- 1:15pm **Native American Skills** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to discuss the tools, weapons, and lifestyles of the ancient peoples of Tennessee.
- 1:30pm **Cable Trail Hike** – Join Jon at the Nature Center for a short but strenuous hike down the Cable Trail to the bottom of Cane Creek Falls. This is a great opportunity to experience the grandeur of one of our park's most prominent geological features. Wear sturdy shoes and bring along some water.
- 1:45pm **Paddle Boat Float** – Meet Brittany at the Boat Dock and take the helm of a paddle boat for an informative cruise around the lake. You may rent your paddle boat at the boat dock; first-come, first-serve.
- 2:00pm **Pontoon Boat Tour** – Meet Ross at the Boat Dock for a pontoon boat tour around the lake. There is a limit of 8 and a fee of \$5. You must sign up at the Boat Dock. In case of cancellation, no refunds can be given.
- 3:00pm **Pontoon Boat Tour** – Meet Ross at the Boat Dock for a pontoon boat tour around the lake. There is a limit of 8 and a fee of \$5. You must sign up at the Boat Dock. In case of cancellation, no refunds can be given.
- 3:30pm **Dogwood Refrigerator Magnets** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to learn about dogwoods. Then, we will make a floral refrigerator magnet using natural materials.
- 6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.



Bluetastic Fangrass featuring Lou Wamp



7:30pm

Live Musical Entertainment - Meet at the Amphitheater by the pool for an evening filled with musical entertainment provided by Bluetastic Fangrass featuring Lou Wamp. Admission is \$3; kids 6 and under are free. In the event of rain, meet at the Rec. Hall.

Sunday, July 15th

- 8:30am **Devotional** – Randy Garrell will be hosting an interdenominational devotional at the Campground A Pavilion.
- 10:00am **Hike to the Base of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Ross at the Main Overlook of Fall Creek Falls for a short but strenuous hike to the bottom of the falls. Along the way, we will discuss our park's forest ecology and geology.
- 10:30am **Azalea Blossom Refrigerator Magnet Craft** – Did you know that Fall Creek Falls State Park has 3 species of Azalea shrubs which produce spectacular white, orange or pink blossoms? Meet David at the Rec. Hall to make a refrigerator magnet from natural material that replicates these spring beauties.
- 1:15pm **Aluminum Foil Canoe Float** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall and build your own aluminum foil boat. Once it is completed, we will race it down the rapids of the Village stream to compete for a prize.
- 1:30pm **Wild Encounters** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn how to avoid potentially dangerous wildlife and what to do in the event an encounter.
- 1:45pm **Natural History Hike** – Meet Jon at the Fall Creek Falls Main Overlook for a walk to Buzzard's Roost. We'll discuss the natural aspects of our park that make it special along the way.
- 2:45pm **Edible and Useful Tree and Plant Walk** – Meet David at the Rec. Hall to take a casual walk around the Village area and learn how the trees and plants of the park have been used by Native Americans, pioneers, and modern people.
- 3:00pm **Backcountry First-Aid** – Meet Ross at the Nature Center to learn some basic wound management and other first-aid skills for the backcountry.
- 6:30pm **Softball** – Meet at the lighted field in the Village. Kids (12 years old and younger) play the first hour. Teens and Adults (13 years old and older) play at 7:30pm. Please wear adequate footwear.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the EEO/AA Coordinator at 1-888-867-7455 or the ADA Coordinator at 1-866-253-5827 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service 1-800-848-0298.



Cool Nature Fact

Do you know that bald eagles gain their white feathers at about three years of age? Bald eagles have been seen around the park's lake for several years. Their primary prey is fish, but they will eat other small animals as well. Keep your eyes open around the lake for eagles, but don't confuse them with the much more common turkey vulture!

Native wildlife is one of the many topics discussed in the Fall Creek Falls 2½-day or 5-day Environmental Education Program for school groups. For more information, contact the Nature Center (423) 881-5708.